

CLAIMS

1 1. A method for threading e-mail messages, the method comprising:
2 receiving an e-mail message;
3 determining that the e-mail message is related to an e-mail thread, the e-mail
4 thread containing at least one existing e-mail message and including an
5 associated thread header;
6 associating the received e-mail message with the e-mail thread; and
7 updating a persistent thread header associated with the e-mail thread to
8 include information derived from the attributes of the received e-mail
9 message.

1 2. A system for threading e-mail messages, comprising:
2 a mailbox processor module for receiving e-mails;
3 a mailbox, communicatively coupled to the mailbox processor module, for
4 electronically storing e-mail messages;
5 a threading engine, communicatively coupled to the mailbox processor
6 module, for determining that a received e-mail is related to an existing thread of e-
7 mail messages stored in the mailbox and associating the received e-mail with the
8 existing thread.

1 3. A computer program product for threading e-mail messages, the program
2 product stored on a computer readable medium and adapted to perform the
3 operations of:
4 receiving an e-mail message;

5 determining that the e-mail message is related to an e-mail thread, the e-mail
6 thread containing at least one existing e-mail message and including an
7 associated thread header;
8 associating the received e-mail message with the e-mail thread; and
9 updating a persistent thread header associated with the e-mail thread to
10 include information derived from the attributes of the received e-mail
11 message.